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LETTER DATED 2 SEPTEMBER 1994 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Further to the letter dated 22 August 1994 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania, Alfred Serreqi, to the President of the Security Council (S/1994/985), upon the instructions of my Government, I wish to point out the following:

Mr. Serreqi's act is unusual in diplomatic practice since he misuses Albania's dispute with Greece, for the cause of which he still owes the world an explanation, to launch an unprovoked attack on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and to reiterate Albania's groundless accusations about the alleged Serbo-Greek strategy of destabilization of the Balkans. Unrelated to the Albanian-Greek dispute are Minister Serreqi's wanton accusations about the alleged repression in Kosovo and Metohija.

Albania's dispute with Greece, deeply rooted in Albania's failure to respect the rights of the Greek minority, as well as show trials, persecution of the opposition and the denial of freedom of information in Albania, reveal all the hypocrisy of Albania's official commitment to democracy and respect for human rights. Such policy is also incompatible with Albania's calls for respect for the rights of Albanians in neighbouring countries. It was only recently that the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities adopted a resolution in which Albania was called upon to respect minority rights.

It is widely known that the rights of ethnic Albanians in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia are guaranteed by the constitutions of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Serbia in accordance with the highest standards of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and the United Nations. The problem is not in the human rights of ethnic Albanians, but in that they do not exercise these rights under the pressure of their separatist leaders. By a systematic boycott of the education system and the laws of the Republic of Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the separatist leaders of ethnic Albanians are trying to paralyse the legal system and create conditions for the cessation of Kosovo and Metohija from Serbia and Yugoslavia.

That the Republic of Serbia is serious in guaranteeing minority rights to all national minorities, including the Albanian national minority, is evinced also by the recent invitation of the Ministry of Education to Albanian children to enrol in regular State schools, which have been boycotted once again under the pressure of separatist leaders. Obviously, the separatist leaders of ethnic Albanians are less interested in providing young Albanians with modern education, under European standards, than in abusing them for political purposes. Albania, as borne out by the statements of its highest representatives, is openly supportive of the secessionist leaders of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo and Metohija, interferes in the internal affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and acts in a manner contrary to the Charter of the United Nations.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia would like to draw the attention of the Security Council to the policy of greater Albanian nationalism and encouragement of separatism pursued by the Government of Albania which is in contravention of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the CSCE and therefore constitutes a threat to peace and security in the region.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

